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Matlab Degree College needs patronage

Times Report

MATLAB (Chandpur): The 25-year-old Matlab Degree College needs patronage for the development of its physical and academic facilities.

A privately managed college it was established in 1964 at the initiative of the renowned former Headmaster of Matlab J.B. Pilot High School, Mr Waliullah Patwari, and the local people.

It meets the higher secondary and higher education needs of students of the vast Matlab Upazila comprising 22 unions, who cannot afford studying at district towns or the cities.

A college source told the Times that the college was rich in material resources and was financially sound. But it failed to attract more talented teachers as there was no residential accommodation facilities.

At present the college offers Humanities, Commerce, Science and Agriculture courses at the higher secondary level and Arts and Commerce at the Degree level. It has a total of 2000 students and 23 teachers.

The college is in possession of over 12 acres of land some of which are under cultivation only on a rental basis. It has a tinshed and a brick-built students'

hostels, a residential quarter for the principal, and a mess for bachelor teachers.

It has a two-storeyed building housing the college office, the science laboratories, and several tin-sheds. Classes are taken in the tin-sheds as well as some rooms of the building.

According to the college source, a total of 850 students appeared at the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations from the college this year. At the Degree level about 150 students had appeared from the college last year.

Last year the percentages of pass of degree students were 40 for the arts groups, and 22 for the commerce group. It has got a permanent recognition from the Comilla Education Board. Affiliation for running the degree courses is renewed from the University of Chittagong on a periodic basis.

A teacher of the school said, given proper patronage the Matlab Degree College could have been developed into an ideal institution of its kind, because it had enough of material resources at its command.

He said that the teachers of the college and the local elite have the feeling that the required development could have been ensured by nationalising it.